any value. True love is an emotion, a strong emotion impelling us to confer the best possible good upon the object of our love, to be occupied only with that. It is absolutely unselfish and opposed to all selfishness. It seeks no reward but the success of its endeavour to do good. It shuns no pain, no sacrifice, in that endeavour ; and all the pain, all the sacrifice involved, only increases the rapture of its indulgence. Love does not merely bring happiness to the loving soul as a consequence of its endeavours. It is happiness in itself. It is happiness to feel the mere impulse. It is greater happiness still to gratify it by effort. Let us note more especially its perfect disinterestedness. The love of a mother for her babe is a recognised type of that perfectly unselfish love. This, in the purely animal sphere, is shared likewise by all creatures towards their tender offspring. But in the higher human sphere, the love of parents for their children, when it is pure, is always disinterested. The children's true welfare is pursued with faithful steadfastness and at the cost of personal sacrifices such as are known only to true fathers and mothers. They do not look for a *quid pro quo,* for any return except

the success of their loving endeavours to promote their children's well-being. The highest praise ever given by one man to another is to say, " He was a father to me." or to a woman, " She was like a mother." True fatherly and motherly love is the highest form in which love can be manifested to us, and this has often been shown by men and women who have never had any children of their own. This is why we have felt that the name of Father is the best and highest *Name* which has ever been given to God. Love is thus more than conscientiousness, although it includes conscientiousness at every step. It is conscientiousness glorified by a delight and eagerness in performance. Love leaps up to do gladly what mere sense of duty would drive us to perform in a half-hearted way. Love turns all drudgery into a delight, and immensely adds to its list of duties the conferring of benefits